in both families we have long-tailed and short-tailed forms. *Cercolabes* corresponds to *Atherura* or *Tricky s,* and *JZrethizon* to *Hystrix.*

The genus *ISretliizon,* the " Urson" of Canada, has a short, stumpy tail Its spines are almost hidden by enveloping hair. The fore-feet have four, the hind-feet five toes. The short tail of this creature is remarkable when we reflect upon its climbing habits. It appears, however, to be a weapon with which it strikes sideways at the enemy.

Of the Itfeotropical genus *Cercolabes* (sometimes called *Sphin-gurus, Synetheres,* or *Coendou)* there are some eight or nine species, all found in Central ^nd South Ame.rica. The animal is

ITiG. 244.—Brazilian Tree Porcupine. *Sphingwrus jprehensiUs.* x£.

arboreal, and has in correspondence with that habit a prehensile tail. The spines are not so stout as in the Ground Porcupines, and are often coloured yellowish or reddish. In correlation with its tree-frequenting habits the bones of *Cercolabes* show certain differences from those of the Ground Porcupines. The scapula is broader and rounder in front than is that of *Hystrix;* the phalanges of the thumb (which is rudimentary) are fused together as in the Canadian *JZrethizon* ; but those of the very small hallux are also fused, whereas in *JSrethizon,* as in *Hystrix,* they are separate. Tn one species, *C, insidiosus,* Sir W. ITlower states that there are as many as seventeen dorsal vertebrae and thirty-six caudals. The tail is thus very long. In *O.* there are fifteen dorsals and twenty-seven caudals; eight reach the sternum, which is composed of seven pieces, the